NOMINATION OF JULIAN H. ZIMMERMAN

UNIVERSITY
OF MICHIGAN

FEB 19 1959

MAIN
READING ROOM

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY
UNITED STATES SENATE

EIGHTY-SIXTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

THE NOMINATION OF JULIAN H. ZIMMERMAN TO BE COMMISSIONER, FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

JANUARY 23, 1959

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NOMINATION OF JULIAN H. ZIMMERMAN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1959

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, in room 301, Senate Office Building, at 9:45 a.m., Senator J. W. Fulbright (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Fulbright, Sparkman, Williams of New Jersey, Bush, and Keating.

Also present: Senators Schoeppel and Carlson.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

We are meeting this morning to consider the nomination of Mr. Julian H. Zimmerman of Kansas to be Public Housing Commissioner.

I believe the two Senators from Kansas are here. Would you please come forward, Senator Schoeppel and Senator Carlson, if you wish.

We are very pleased to have the Senators from Kansas here to introduce Mr. Zimmerman whom we know very well.

Senator Schoeppel.

Senator SCHOEPPEL. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, obviously this is a most pleasant occasion for me to be here with my colleague, Frank Carlson, to say a few words in behalf of Julian Zimmerman of Wichita, Kans.

It has been my pleasure to know Mr. Zimmerman for a good many years. I happen to have known, and know favorably and well, the members of his law firm in Wichita, Kans. William Kahrs, the senior member of that firm has been a State senator of my State for a good many years. The fact of the matter was, he was in the State senate when I happened to be privileged to be Governor of my State.

Mr. Zimmerman accepted his first Federal appointment as Deputy General Counsel of the Housing and Home Finance Agency in 1957. From all the reports that I have had from my association with many people who were down there he had a very successful tenure in that responsible position.

As many of you gentlemen know, shortly thereafter he was advanced to the position of General Counsel of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

I can say this, that here is a young man who has applied himself. He is industrious, he is careful, and I have found him to be fair. Those are some of the qualifications that I wanted to speak of in his behalf in presenting him to the members of this responsible committee. Julian Zimmerman, I know from what I have found out, has had a fine relationship with the staff people here on the Hill. I know that he will conduct this office in the manner in which it should be conducted, fairly. He is well qualified in every way.

He is not a young man who knows everything. I know that, and that is the thing that commends him to me. I am very happy to commend him to you, members of this committee, for confirmation in this responsible position.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you. Senator Carlson?

Senator CARLSON. Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, I want to concur in what my colleague has said. I have known Mr. Zimmerman for many years. Having been in Washington in legislative positions and having served in an executive capacity in my State, I know how important it is to get people who know how to work with people. In fact, that is one of the problems we sometimes run into in Government.

Julian Zimmerman is that type of person; he knows how to work with people, he is honest and sincere, he is hard working and fair. Therefore, I sincerely endorse his nomination and hope the committee will approve it.

The CHAIRMAN. I presume he is a Republican, Senator Carlson?

Senator CARLSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Sparkman, do you have any questions?

Senator SPARKMAN. I noted the very strong answer that Senator Carlson gave to that question.

The CHAIRMAN. I wondered why he had overlooked that.

Senator SPARKMAN. How old are you, Mr. Zimmerman?

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. Forty-two years old, sir.

Senator SPARKMAN. I was just interested, because I noticed your hobbies.

Mr. Chairman, I have no questions to ask Mr. Zimmerman.

I may say this: All that I have known of him, all that I have heard about him, has been in his favor. He hasn't been in Washington quite 2 years yet, I believe.

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. No, about 18 months.

Senator SPARKMAN. You came in the spring of 1957?

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. Yes, sir.

Senator SPARKMAN. And you came, I believe, as Assistant General Counsel and then moved to General Counsel, and now are moving to the position of Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration, which has been pretty rapid change and promotion. I think perhaps it is a testimonial to the good work that you have done.

As I say, all that I have heard about him has been good. I have no questions to ask.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Bush?

Senator BUSH. Mr. Chairman, I will add little to what has been said by the distinguished Senators from Kansas. I certainly endorse what they say, from all I know about Mr. Zimmerman. My own contacts with him have been rather numerous, in the last year or so particularly, and I found him to be a very high grade gentleman and very attentive to and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. I think it is an excellent appointment which I am glad to vote for.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the Senator from New York wish to ask questions?

Senator KEATING. Mr. Chairman, I have heard nothing but praise of Mr. Zimmerman and his work. I notice he has been a publisher and I favor all publishers. I have no questions to put to him. I have some to put to Senator Schoeppel but I will defer that until later.

The CHAIRMAN. The Senator from New Jersey?

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. Chairman, I am happy to support him.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Zimmerman, apparently you have a very high standing with those who know you best.

I have just recently become acquainted with Mr. Zimmerman. It is a very responsible position you are assuming and I wish you well in the discharge of it. I hope we can get you a good bill that you can work with through this Congress.

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The biographical sketch of Mr. Zimmerman will go in the record.

(The sketch referred to follows:)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JULIAN H. ZIMMERMAN

Julian H. Zimmerman was nominated Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration on January 20, 1959.

Immediately prior to that appointment he was for 18 months General Counsel of the Housing and Home Finance Agency. In addition to the usual legal duties of the position, Mr. Zimmerman participated actively in the formulation of the legislative program for HHFA and its five constituents, covering the whole range of governmental activity in the field of housing and urban renewal.

A native of Wichita, Kans., Mr. Zimmerman came to Washington early in 1957 from that city, where he was a member of the law firm of Kahrs & Nelson. He served as Assistant General Counsel of HHFA prior to becoming General Counsel in August 1957.

Mr. Zimmerman studied law at the University of Kansas Law School. During that period he played a major role in organizing and planning the University of Kansas Law Review and served as an asscoiate editor of that journal.

Upon graduating and before opening a law office, he served as executive secretary to the then Governor Edward F. Arn of Kansas.

Mr. Zimmerman spent 5 years in the publishing business before embarking on his law career. From 1946 to 1948 he was owner-editor of the Clearwater News, at Clearwater, Kans., and later served as president of Prairie Publishers, Inc., at Wichita.

Prior to that he spent the years from 1941 to 1946 in the Army, entering as an enlisted man and being discharged as a lieutenant colonel in Military Intelligence. He attended the Command and General Staff College at Leavenworth and saw service in both Europe and Africa.

Mr. Zimmerman was born in Wichita in February 1917. He took his undergraduate work at the University of Kansas and later obtained his law degree from the same institution.

His hobbies include tennis, camping, and mountain climbing—activities shared in by other members of his family on vacations.

He is married and has a daughter, Jana, 15, who is a student at Mount Vernon Seminary. The Zimmerman family lives at Peacock Station, McLean, Va.

The CHAIRMAN. If there is nothing further we will proceed with the hearings on the housing bills.

(Thereupon, at 10 a.m., the committee proceeded to other business.)

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